

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently Amended)** A bacteria growth carrier including a trace element characterized that an element wherein a polymer product obtained by including a trace element or the trace element and an inorganic nutrient salt for growth of bacteria in a synthetic or natural polymeric material is laminated by being held with held between layers of a synthetic or natural inorganic porous material.
- 2. (Original)** The bacteria growth carrier as claimed in claim 1, which is a particulate, cylindrical or plate-like carrier.
- 3. (Original)** The bacteria growth carrier as claimed in claim 1, which has a honeycomb structure.